

THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A bicycle stem for connecting a bicycle handlebar to a bicycle steering tube, the bicycle stem comprising:
 - a body portion having opposing first and second ends;
 - a handlebar clamping portion connected to the first end of said body portion;
 - a handlebar clamping member cooperating with said handlebar clamping portion to clamp the bicycle handlebar therebetween;
 - said handlebar clamping member and said handlebar clamping portion each having a cavity in a respective medial portion thereof to accommodate an enlarged diameter portion of the handlebar;
 - at least one fastener for securing said handlebar clamping member to said handlebar clamping portion; and
 - a steering tube clamping portion connected to the second end of said body portion.
 2. A bicycle stem according to Claim 1 wherein said handlebar clamping member has a generally rectangular shape with a recess therein defining with the cavity a pair of spaced apart contact areas for contacting the handlebar.
 3. A bicycle stem according to Claim 1 wherein said handlebar clamping member is removable from said handlebar clamping portion.
 4. A bicycle stem according to Claim 1 and wherein said handlebar clamping portion has a recess

therein defining with the cavity a pair of spaced apart contact areas for contacting the handlebar.

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5. A bicycle stem according to Claim 1 wherein said body portion has a tubular shape with a hollow interior; and wherein the cavity of said handlebar clamping portion has an opening therein in 5 communication with the hollow interior of said body portion.

6. A bicycle stem according to Claim 1 wherein said handlebar clamping member and said handlebar clamping portion both have generally rectangular shapes overlying one another.

7. A bicycle stem according to Claim 6 wherein said at least one fastener comprises respective fasteners securing corners of said handlebar clamping member and said handlebar clamping portion together.

8. A bicycle stem according to Claim 1 wherein said body portion, handlebar clamping portion and steering tube clamping portion are integrally formed as a monolithic unit.

9. A bicycle stem according to Claim 1 wherein said steering tube clamping portion has a tubular shape defining a steering tube receiving passageway therethrough, and wherein said steering tube 5 clamping portion also has a clamp receiving passageway therein transverse to the steering tube receiving passageway and in communication therewith.

10. A bicycle stem according to Claim 9 further comprising a steering tube clamp in the clamp

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receiving passageway and comprising a pair of cooperating clamp members aligned in side-by-side relation and comprising respective portions defining a recess therein for the steering tube.

11. A bicycle stem for connecting a bicycle handlebar to a bicycle steering tube, the bicycle stem comprising:

a body portion;

5 a handlebar clamping portion connected to an end of said body portion and having a generally rectangular shape;

10 a handlebar clamping member having a generally rectangular shape aligned with said handlebar clamping portion and cooperating therewith to clamp the bicycle handlebar therebetween;

15 said handlebar clamping member and said handlebar clamping portion each having a cavity in a respective medial portion thereof to accommodate an enlarged diameter portion of the handlebar; and
respective fasteners for securing corners of said handlebar clamping member and said handlebar clamping portion together.

12. A bicycle stem according to Claim 11 wherein said handlebar clamping member has a recess therein defining with the cavity a pair of spaced apart contact areas for contacting the handlebar.

13. A bicycle stem according to Claim 11 wherein said handlebar clamping member is removable from said handlebar clamping portion.

14. A bicycle stem according to Claim 11 and wherein said handlebar clamping portion has a recess

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therein defining with the cavity a pair of spaced apart contact areas for contacting the handlebar.

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15. A bicycle stem according to Claim 11 wherein said body portion has a tubular shape with a hollow interior; and wherein the cavity of said handlebar clamping portion has an opening therein in 5 communication with the hollow interior of said body portion.

16. A bicycle stem according to Claim 11 further comprising a steering tube clamping portion connected to an end of said body portion opposite said handlebar clamping portion.

17. A bicycle stem according to Claim 16 wherein said body portion, handlebar clamping portion and steering tube clamping portion are integrally formed as a monolithic unit.

18. A bicycle stem according to Claim 16 wherein said steering tube clamping portion has a tubular shape defining a steering tube receiving passageway therethrough, and wherein said steering tube 5 clamping portion also has a clamp receiving passageway therein transverse to the steering tube receiving passageway and in communication therewith.

19. A bicycle stem according to Claim 18 further comprising a steering tube clamp in the clamp receiving passageway and comprising a pair of cooperating clamp members aligned in side-by-side 5 relation and comprising respective portions defining a recess therein for the steering tube.

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20. A bicycle stem for connecting a bicycle handlebar to a bicycle steering tube, the bicycle stem comprising:

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- a body portion having a tubular shape
 - 5 defining a hollow interior;
 - a handlebar clamping portion connected to an end of said body portion and having a recess therein for the handlebar, said handlebar clamping portion further having an opening in a medial portion of the
 - 10 recess in communication with the hollow interior of said body portion;
 - a handlebar clamping member cooperating with said handlebar clamping portion to clamp the bicycle handlebar therebetween, said handlebar clamping member
 - 15 having a recess for the handlebar and a cavity in a medial portion of the recess; and
 - at least one fastener for securing said handlebar clamping member to said handlebar clamping portion.

21. A bicycle stem according to Claim 20 wherein said handlebar clamping member is removable from said handlebar clamping portion.

22. A bicycle stem according to Claim 20 wherein said handlebar clamping member and said handlebar clamping portion both have generally rectangular shapes overlying one another.

23. A bicycle stem according to Claim 22 wherein said at least one fastener comprises respective fasteners securing corners of said handlebar clamping member and said handlebar clamping portion together.

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24. A bicycle stem according to Claim 20 further comprising a steering tube clamping portion connected to an end of said body portion opposite said handlebar clamping portion.

25. A bicycle stem according to Claim 24 wherein said body portion, handlebar clamping portion and steering tube clamping portion are integrally formed as a monolithic unit.

26. A bicycle stem according to Claim 24 wherein said steering tube clamping portion has a tubular shape defining a steering tube receiving passageway therethrough, and wherein said steering tube 5 clamping portion also has a clamp receiving passageway therein transverse to the steering tube receiving passageway and in communication therewith.

27. A bicycle stem according to Claim 26 further comprising a steering tube clamp in the clamp receiving passageway and comprising a pair of cooperating clamp members aligned in side-by-side 5 relation and comprising respective portions defining a recess therein for the steering tube.

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28. A method for making bicycle stem for connecting a bicycle handlebar to a bicycle steering tube, the method comprising:

5 forming a body portion and a handlebar clamping portion connected to the end thereof, the handlebar clamping portion having a cavity in a medial portion thereof;

forming a handlebar clamping member having a cavity in a medial portion thereof and for cooperating

- 10 with the handlebar clamping portion to clamp the bicycle handlebar therebetween; and providing at least one fastener for securing the handlebar clamping member to the handlebar clamping portion.

29. A method according to Claim 28 wherein the handlebar clamping member has a generally rectangular shape with a recess therein defining with the cavity a pair of spaced apart contact areas for 5 contacting the handlebar.

30. A method according to Claim 28 wherein the handlebar clamping member is removable from the handlebar clamping portion.

31. A method according to Claim 28 and wherein the handlebar clamping portion has a recess therein defining with the cavity a pair of spaced apart contact areas for contacting the handlebar.

32. A method according to Claim 28 wherein the body portion has a tubular shape with a hollow interior; and wherein the cavity of the handlebar clamping portion has an opening therein in 5 communication with the hollow interior of the body portion.

33. A method according to Claim 28 wherein the handlebar clamping member and the handlebar clamping portion both have generally rectangular shapes overlying one another.

34. A method according to Claim 33 wherein the at least one fastener comprises respective

fasteners securing corners of the handlebar clamping member and the handlebar clamping portion together.

35. A method according to Claim 28 further comprising forming a steering tube clamping portion connected to an end of the body portion opposite the handlebar clamping portion.

36. A method according to Claim 35 wherein the body portion, handlebar clamping portion and steering tube clamping portion are integrally formed as a monolithic unit.

37. A method according to Claim 35 wherein
the steering tube clamping portion has a tubular shape
defining a steering tube receiving passageway
therethrough, and wherein the steering tube clamping
portion also has a clamp receiving passageway therein
transverse to the steering tube receiving passageway
and in communication therewith.